



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

*A Tuscan Childhood.* By LISI CIPRIANI. New York: The Century Co., 1907. \$1.25 net.

The life of the average American calls for a certain versatility in meeting a fair range of practical problems. This fact often leads him to fail to realize the value to all concerned of being able to take a position in thought far enough away from his usual experiences to enable him to make a fair comparison of the contrasting situations without being compelled to act at once.

Without going into other fields this has application in case of parents and teachers with reference to the life of children in home and school. Miss Cipriani has afforded us a series of glimpses into the life and experiences of two generations of Italian patrician children. The account given of things thought, done, said, and written by the seven, of whom she was the middle one, is much more significant because the important factor in their lives, the mother, is made so real to us as a child. An old Ghibelline family expelled from Florence returns to Tuscany after centuries of residence in Corsica, becomes Protestant, brings in German influence by marriage, and takes part in the liberation and unification of Italy. Here we have a background without which the conflict of tendencies in the education of the young family would be harder to understand.

Among the problems that come to mind as one reads the book are those of religious education in its individual, family, and community bearings; the division of labor between nurses, governesses, tutors, and parents; few associates versus many in early life; the varying elements made use of in providing a protected environment; the possibilities of language acquirement and use in early childhood; "forbidden fruit;" "no questions;" the respective places of invention and mechanism in punishment; the persistence of certain tendencies which we think require only more time to control; the division of labor between the English system for early experience years and health at all times and the German for "intellectual development." This last influence one finds a serious matter in Italy today where pressure from all sides tries to fit the hearty, outdoor Italian boy into a poor form of German secondary school, with its long hours and home study.

But this book is not a pedagogical treatise—the author has in mind the need we have for autobiographies of childhood and inserts original documents where she can do so, but everything combines to make a delightful, well-written story. One must not be led astray by Maxfield Parrish's illustration for the cover and consider this a story-book for young children. It has decidedly the adult point of view and some parents might object, even if the children cared to read it, to have them enter into the frank discussion found in it regarding the author's parents, especially the mother. Anyone taxed for stories to tell will find excellent material both for little ones and for after dinner. The book can well be placed in the high-school library and will also be of use to those who have to do with the training of teachers.

FRANK A. MANNY

NEW YORK CITY